MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member can ask that even without asking the other supplementary question.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Then I ask whether the Government will be pleased to fix a qualification for the Headmasters of the English Middle Schools.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government will consult the Director of Public Instruction.

Headmaster; English High School, Adur.

58. **MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Headmaster of the English High School, Adur, was recently assaulted by an assistant of his;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the very same Headmaster was transferred from Chengannur some years ago after an assault upon him by some persons;

(*c*) whether the Government, the Director of Public Instruction and the Inspector of English Schools are in possession of a copy of the resolution passed at a public meeting held at Adur on the 10th Minam 1101 referring to the Headmaster's mismanagement of the school, lack of harmony and co-operation between the Headmaster and his assistants and the need for giving him a transfer; and

(*d*) whether any action was taken upon it by the Government or the department and, if so, with what result?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) After enquiry into the matter, the Director of Public Instruction has reported that from the evidence it is not clear that the Headmaster of the English High School, Adur, was assaulted by an Assistant in the school.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Copy of the resolutions referred to by the member was received by the Government, the Director of Public Instruction and the Inspector of English Schools.

(*d*) A report was called for from the Director of Public Instruction on the resolutions, and as it was observed from the report that no further action was called for, the resolutions were recorded.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): In regard to answer to part (*a*) may I know the nature of the evidence taken by the Director of Public Instruction?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The nature of the evidence is not known. The Director asked the Inspector to make an enquiry and report, and he has reported. What evidence exactly was taken is not known.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Has he taken the deposition of the teachers of that school in regard to the incident?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He seems to have taken some deposition.

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MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Has he taken the deposition of the Headmaster himself?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Whether he took it in the form of deposition is not known. He took the explanation of the Headmaster.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Did he ask the Assistants concerned?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He seems to have done that too.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Is that Assistant teacher there still?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, he is not there.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): When was he transferred?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Soon after the incident.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): What was the cause of that transfer?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because it was not desirable to retain two teachers who were not on good terms with each other.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): So, are the Government aware that the two teachers are not in good terms with each other.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. That incident disclosed it.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Has the Director enquired as to which of them was at fault?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is given in the answer. Whether the Director has enquired or not is not known.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): It is said that the Headmaster and the Assistant were not on good terms with each other.

PRESIDENT: Will the Member kindly make it clear what matter of public concern his question has and the information that he wants to seek about? Interpellations on questions are confined to matters of public concern. If you are unable to make it quite clear that it is a matter of public concern then I will have to disallow it.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): This concerns the public.

PRESIDENT: It is not a matter of public concern. It is only a minor matter of internal discipline between two officers.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): A public meeting was held.

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PRESIDENT: That does not seem to me to be a matter of public concern. I am afraid I cannot allow the question.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara cum Kunnathur*): With regard to answer to part (*c*) may I know whether the Director of Public Instruction consulted the President of the public meeting during the enquiry?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Should I answer the question Sir?

PRESIDENT: You need not.

Committee on Educational Reforms.

59. **MR. C. P. THOMAS** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Chief Secretary to Government said in answer to an interpellation in the Council that the Government would decide the question of appointing an education committee before the close of the last school year (1926-1927);

(*b*) whether they have changed their opinion on the question and, if so, on what grounds;

(*c*) whether they are aware that the question of educational reforms has been recently engaging the serious attention of the authorities in most provinces of India; and

(*d*) whether they will make a definite statement about their present intentions on the matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The statement made was that the Government hoped to come to a decision about the appointment of a committee or other agency to examine the system of education before the close of the last academic year.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The member's attention is invited to the pronouncement made by the Dewan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th August 1927 when the Education demand was discussed.

Educational Reform.

60. **MR. C. P. THOMAS** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state what stage they have reached in carrying out the promise made by them in the last Council to consider the question of educational reform in the State through a committee or other agency?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Location of Courts at Pujappura.

61. **MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Ambalapuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they propose to take or have taken any step towards locating the High Court or any other civil court at Pujappura; and

(*b*) if there is any such idea, will they be pleased to afford an opportunity to this Council to express its views on the question?

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